

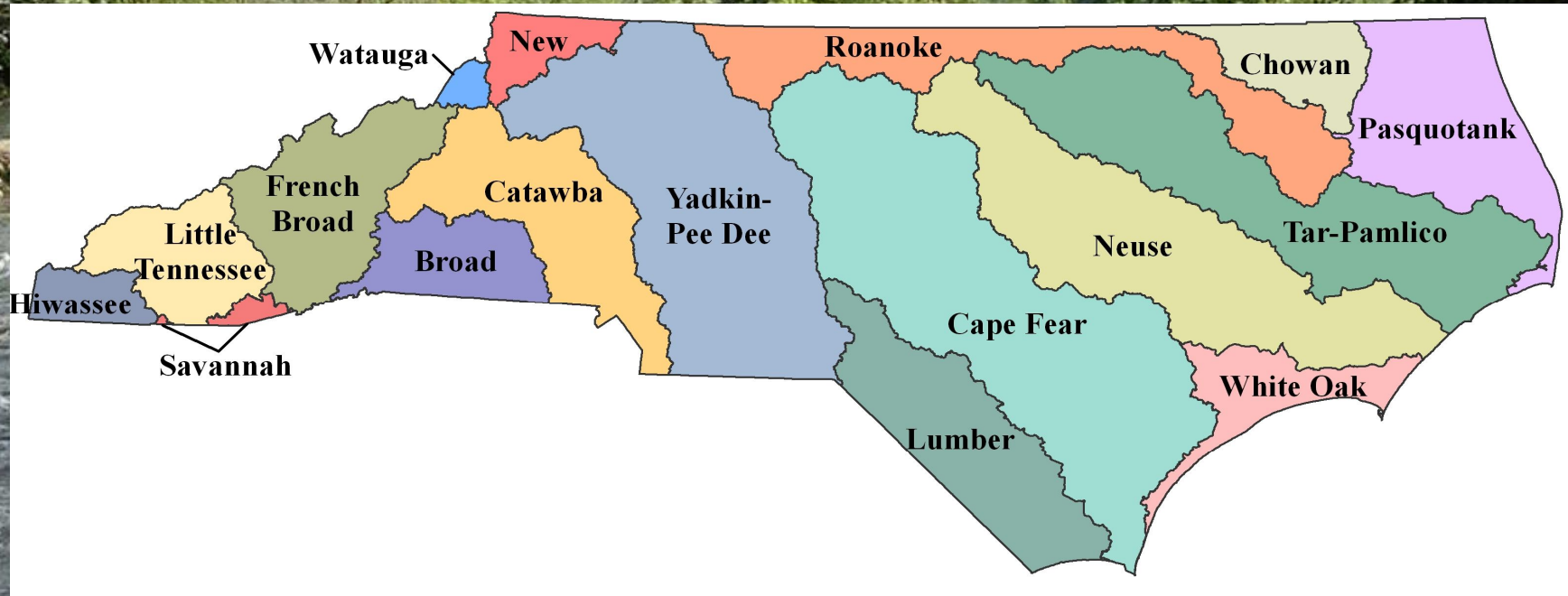
# **North Carolina's Basinwide Planning Program**

**Division of Water Quality  
Department of Environment  
and Natural Resources**





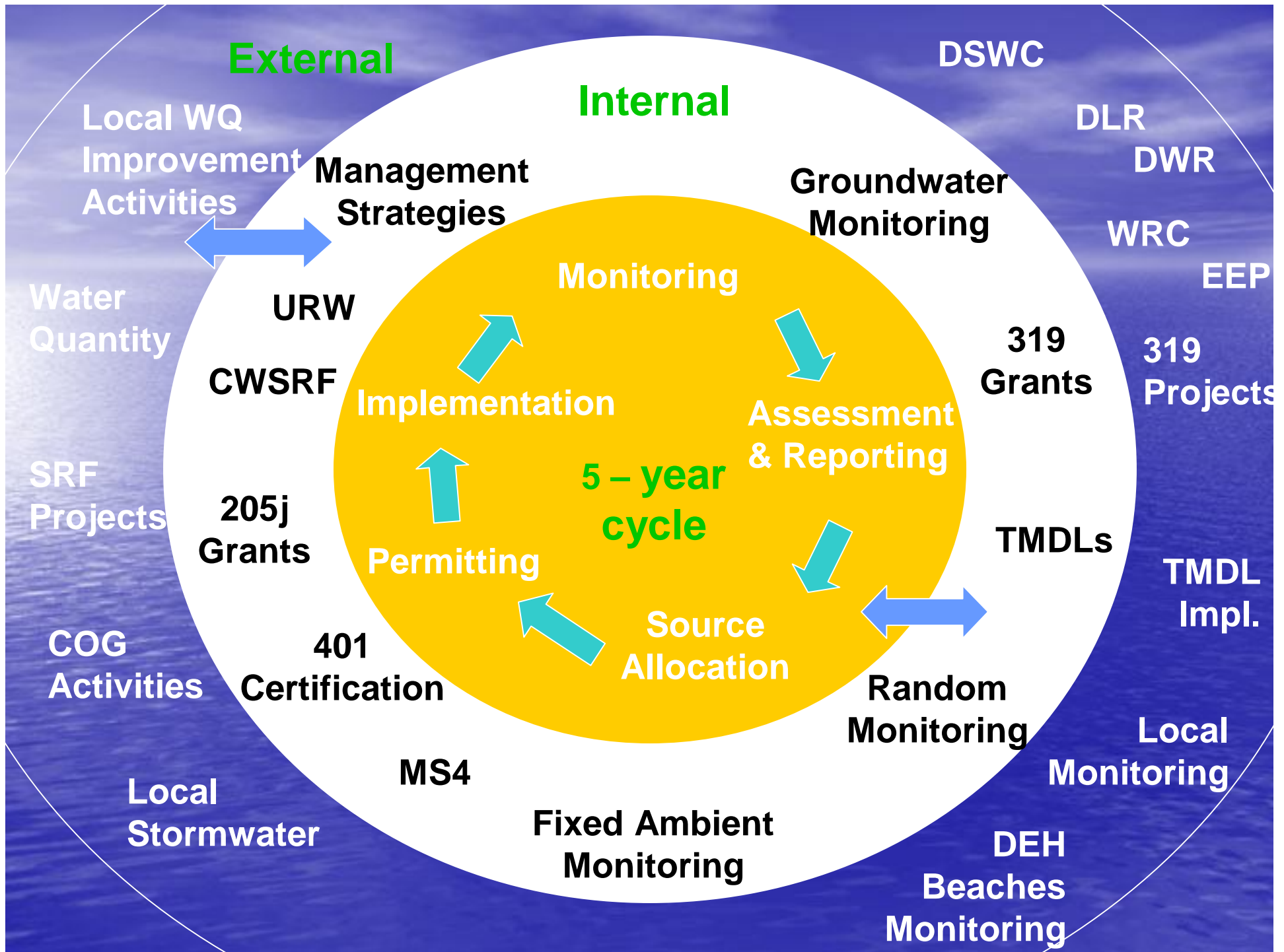
# ***NC River Basins***











## Summary

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Yadkin-Pee Dee River basin is the second largest basin in North Carolina and covers approximately 7,213 square miles, spanning 21 counties. Originating on the eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Caldwell and Wilkes counties, the Yadkin River flows northwesterly for about 100 miles and then turns southeast until it joins the Uwharrie River to form the Pee Dee River. The Pee Dee River continues its southeast course through North and South Carolina to Winyah Bay at the Atlantic Ocean.

Increasing nutrient enrichment, urbanization, and wastewater are the primary impacts to water quality in this basin. Most of these impacts are focused in the counties of Forsyth, Rowan, Mecklenburg, Davidson, and Union. Land conversion from forest and agricultural practices to suburban uses is occurring nearly everywhere throughout this basin. Only protected natural areas and steep mountainous terrain are not impacted by these changes.

Despite these areas of concern, there are still streams in large and comparatively undeveloped catchments with very good water quality. Most of these waters are found in northern Wilkes, western St. Lawrence and parts of Montgomery County (Uwharrie National Forest). Portions of Montgomery County (Outstanding Resource Waters) have 51 streams and rivers classified Outstanding Resource Waters. The Yadkin-Pee Dee River basin, 73% are located in these counties.

The Yadkin-Pee Dee River basin experienced moderate to severe conditions in 2001, which had the potential to reduce the impact of point sources and magnify the impacts from point source discharges.

### CURRENT STATUS

[illegible]

HVC 03050105

2008

### RIVER BASIN DESCRIPTION

The Broad River basin encompasses 5,419 square miles within North and South Carolina. The North Carolina portion covers 1,513 square miles, nearly 28 percent of the entire watershed. The headwaters and major tributaries in the Broad River basin begin in the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina. The river continues southward through the foothills and southern piedmont regions of North Carolina where it eventually joins the Congaree and

...the piedmont. This project... basin is home to 15 rare... and includes a considerable... Five Natural Heritage Program... the Rollins/Scott Mountains... River Gorge, the Pacolet River... State Park and a portion of... basin.

It also contains 1,508 miles  
0.98 square miles per sq  
portion of the basin.

average drainage area is much smaller in the western basin. Areas with high drainage (drainage basin) are associated with high variability for construction of

RIVER BASIN AT A GLANCE  
COUNTIES

Buncombe

**Municipalities**  
Belwood, Boiling Springs, Bostic,  
Canar, Cherryville, Chimney Rock  
Village, Columbus, Earl, Ellensboro,  
Pallison, Forest City, Grover, Kings  
Mountain, Kingstown, Lake Lure,  
Lattimore, Lawndale, Mooresboro,  
Patterson Springs, Polkville, Ruth,  
Rutherfordton, Saluda, Shelby,  
Spindale, Tryon, Waco

PERMITTED FACILITIES

Major:	14
NPDES Nondischarge:	30
NPDES Stormwater:	7
General:	
Individual:	
Animal:	

MONITORED STREAM MILES  
(AQUATIC L-)

Monitored:	569.7 mi
Total Supporting:	463.2 mi
Total Impaired:	93.2 mi
Total Not Rated:	13.4 mi



**Basinwide Planning Program Website**  
**<http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/basinwide/>**  
**or call**  
**919-807-6427**